NEWS AND NOTES

Professor George Massee, one of the associate editors of *Mycologia,* is reported to have retired from his position as head of the cryptogamic department in the herbarium of the Royal Gardens, Kew, England.

Dr. H. M. Fitzpatrick, assistant professor of plant pathology at Cornell University, visited the Garden several times recently to examine the collections. Dr. Fitzpatrick is spending three months at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

A large number of specimens of *Agaricus Rodmani* were found on May 19, 1915, by Mr. F. J. McCarthy in a partially shaded street border in Bedford Park, New York City, where this interesting double-ringed species was observed over ten years ago.

Mr. L. O. Overholts, who recently held a fellowship at the Missouri Botanical Garden, has been appointed instructor in botany at Pennsylvania State College. He enters upon his new duties on August 1.

Dr. F. D. Fromme, of Purdue University, formerly a student at the Garden, has accepted the position of plant pathologist and bacteriologist at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dr. H. S. Reed, until recently professor of plant pathology and bacteriology in the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed professor of plant physiology in the Citrus Experiment Station and Graduate School of Tropical Agriculture, recently established by the University of California at Riverside.

Professor Edward M. Gilbert, of the University of Wisconsin, spent about a week at the Garden early in June studying the herbarium collection of tremellaceous fungi. He is planning to

devote considerable attention to this interesting, although somewhat neglected, group of basidiomycetes.

Dr. B. O. Dodge will spend six weeks during the summer at Camp Columbia, near Litchfield, Conn., where he will offer a course in general botany with special reference to the fungous diseases of forest trees. Some time will also be devoted to the collection and study of fleshy fungi. The work will be offered in connection with the Extension Teaching of Columbia University.

The March number of *The New Phytologist* contains an article by George K. Sutherland on marine fungi, a field of mycology which has been very poorly explored. The author of the paper restricts his investigations to those fungi which occur on *Pelvetia*. Four species of ascomycetes are recorded for this host, all of which are described as new. The number of species which occur on this host would suggest the possibility that marine fungi may be much more numerous than has previously been supposed.

In a recent number of the *Journal of Agricultural Research*, J. R. Weir records certain observations on *Rhizina inflata*. These observations tend to support the theory that this fungus is parasitic on coniferous seedlings. The roots of the dying seedlings were found to be covered with a mass of white mycelium which was found to be connected with the fruiting bodies of *Rhizina inflata*. One experiment was conducted which adds some experimental proof in support of the theory, although the experimental work is not extensive enough to be conclusive. The species has frequently been reported as a parasite in Europe.

The report of the state botanist of New York for 1913, prepared by Dr. Homer D. House, appeared early in June, 1915, as Bulletin 176 of the New York State Museum. It records the moving of the collections to the new building and their arrangement in the new metal herbarium cases in a way to make them more available for study and safer from insect attack. Three

new species of fungi are described, namely, *Inocybe euthelella* Peck, *Clitocybe phyllophiloides* Peck, and *Hebeloma palustre* Peck. Dr. House has contributed some very interesting notes on state local floras and an important article of over thirty pages with copious illustrations on certain features of German forestry.

In a recent professional paper on the pathology of the jack pine, James R. Weir states that the most important fungous disease of this tree is *Peridermium cerebrum,* the control of which in many localities is quite a serious forest problem. The most important wood-destroying fungi of the jack pine are *Trametes Pini* and *Polyporus Schweinitzii,* but these do not produce any appreciable decay until the tree reaches its period of decline, placed approximately at from sixty to eighty years of age. The wood of this tree deteriorates rapidly after it is cut under the influence of a number of saprophytic fungi and cannot be expected to remain sound in the forest for more than two or three years.

Dr. W. A. Murrill, Assistant Director, visited Washington, D. C., and Richmond, Va., early in June and found the chestnut canker abundant in the Washington parks and rapidly spreading south of the Potomac River. Most fleshy fungi were just beginning to appear in Virginia, having been delayed by the cool weather. *Pholiota praecox* and *Lentinus umbilicatus,* however, as well as *Polyporus arcularius,* were already abundant. Probably the most interesting species collected was *Bolbitius variicolor,* so well described and figured in Atkinson's "Studies of American Fungi." This was found in a shaded, manured yard in Falls Church, Virginia, on June 6. The pileus was olivaceous with yellowish center, reticulate-rugose, and very viscid; the lamellae at first straw-yellow or sulfur-yellow; the stipe pale-yellow above and white below, decorated with minute scales pointing upward.

RECENT SPECIFIC NAMES RECOMBINED

For the convenience of those using Saccardo's nomenclature, the names of species of boletes and polypores published in *My-*

cologia and in "Western Polypores" and "Tropical Polypores" in 1915 are recombined as follows:

ELFVINGIA BROWNII	= **Fomes Brownii**
INONOTUS LEEI	= **Polyporus Leei**
INONOTUS PORRECTUS	= **Polyporus porrectus**
PYROPOLYPORUS ABRAMSIANUS	= **Fomes Abramsianus**
ROSTKOVITES CALIFORNICUS	= **Boletus californicus**
TYROMYCES GRAMINICOLA	= **Polyporus graminicola**

W. A. MURRILL.

"Tropical Polypores," a book of 113 pages by W. A. Murrill, was issued June 15, 1915. It contains descriptions of the pileate species occurring in Mexico, Central America, southern Florida, the Bermudas, the West Indies, and other parts of tropical North America, together with descriptive notes and complete keys to the genera and species. *Tyromyces graminicola, Polyporus Marbleae,* and *Inonotus porrectus* are described as new; while *Inonotus leprosus* (Fries), *Fomes turbinatus* (Pat.), *Elfvingiella fasciata* (Sw.), *Fulvifomes calcitratus* (Berk. & Curt.) Murrill, *Fulvifomes Cedrelae* Murrill, *Fulvifomes cinchonensis* Murrill, *Fulvifomes dependens* Murrill, *Fulvifomes extensus* (Lév.) Murrill, *Fulvifomes grenadensis* Murrill, *Fulvifomes hydrophilus* Murrill, *Fulvifomes jamaicensis* Murrill, *Fulvifomes linteus* (Berk. & Curt.) Murrill, *Fulvifomes melleicinctus* Murrill, *Fulvifomes pseudosenex* Murrill, *Fulvifomes sarcitus* (Fries) Murrill, *Fulvifomes sublinteus* Murrill, *Fulvifomes subpectinatus* Murrill, *Fulvifomes Swieteniae* Murrill, *Fulvifomes troyanus* Murrill, *Fulvifomes Underwoodii* Murrill, and *Fulvifomes yucatanensis* Murrill are newly combined. The index to genera with species forms a handy check list and the authorities have been added for the convenience of those wishing to write labels.

THE NEW GENUS LENTODIELLUM

This genus was described for Volume 9, part 4, of *North American Flora,* but it had to be reserved for the following part which will not appear for some months.

27. **LENTODIELLUM** Murrill, gen. nov.

Persistent, fleshy-tough, densely cespitose; pileus smooth, deeply depressed; lamellae decurrent: spores hyaline: veil scanty, evanescent: stipe central, hard, woody.

Type species, *Panus concavus* Berk.

1. **Lentodiellum concavum** (Berk.) Murrill

Panus concavus Berk. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. II. 9: 194. 1852.
?*Lentinus cochleatus occidentalis* Fries, Nova Acta Soc. Sci. Upsal. III. 1: 227. 1855.

Pileus tough but fleshy, infundibuliform, densely cespitose, 3–8 cm. broad; surface glabrous but not polished, chalky-white, not striate, margin strongly incurved, appendiculate: lamellae strongly decurrent, crowded, narrow, white becoming yellowish: spores oblong-ellipsoid, pointed at one end, smooth, hyaline, 6–7 × 2.5–3 μ: stipe exannulate, central or nearly so, cylindric, connate below, glabrous or subglabrous, white, solid, tough, 4–8 cm. long, 3–4 mm. thick: veil thick, white, appendiculate.

TYPE LOCALITY: Santo Domingo.

HABITAT: On dead logs and stumps.

DISTRIBUTION: Tropical America.

W. A. MURRILL.

Dr. Arthur Harmount Graves, formerly assistant professor of botany in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, returned early in July on the S. S. "St. Paul" from Liverpool. He has been spending a year in research at the laboratory of Professor V. H. Blackman, professor of plant physiology and pathology, Imperial Institute of Science and Technology, London. It may be recalled that Dr. Graves was one of a number of professors in the Sheffield Scientific School who were not reappointed in June, 1914, on account of a lack of funds.